

#5/IDS
DEVILS
9.15.99

ATTN: BOX PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Hitoshi MATSUMOTO and Takahiro NAKA

Appln. No.: 09/318,268

Filed: May 25, 1999

For: INK CARTRIDGE, INK-JET PRINTING APPARATUS, AND REFILLING DEVICE
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98



Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents are submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants submit the following explanations:

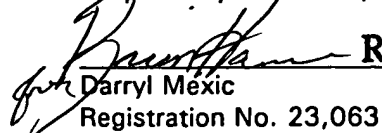
JP 7-232438 (Canon: published on September 5, 1995) discloses an ink jet cartridge C which is provided with a memory 1 having an identification signal ID, and an apparatus body P which is provided with control section 2 having a CPU, a timer 3, a memory and the like. The control section 2 reads the identification signal ID to calculate the lapse of time for the ink jet cartridge C in accordance with the identification ID. The control section controls a power pulse supplied to a heater 4 disposed in the ink jet cartridge in accordance with the lapse of time as calculated.

JP 8-310007 (Oki data: published on November 26, 1996) discloses a printer body 2 of a serial printer 1 which is provided with a control section 5 (CPU 5) which connects to a memory 6 and a print control section 7. An ink cartridge 3 mounted on the printer body 2 installs therein a ROM 4 which stores thereon a single identification data representing a kind of ink (not shown) contained in the ink cartridge 3. The memory 6 stores therein a comparative data which is compared with the identification data, and CPU 5 outputs a print actuation signal to the print control section 7 when the identification data is judged to coincide with the comparative data.

JP 6-126981 (Canon: published on May 10, 1994) discloses a cartridge 2 accommodating therein a recording member which is provided with a non-volatile memory 4. The recording member accommodated within the cartridge 2 is supplied to a recording head, which is not shown, through a supplied pipe which is not shown. The non-volatile memory 4 is connected, by a plurality of signal lines, to a control board 1 of a recording apparatus body through a control section 3 of the cartridge. Owing to the structure, desired information such as the kind of cartridge 2 and remaining amount of the recording member can be written on the cartridge 2, or the information written on the cartridge 2 can be read out.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


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